



Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities

Celebrating 31 Years of Leadership & Advocacy



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August 30, 2006

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES INTEREST BEARING TRUST FUND ACCOUNT (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Authorize the Commission to establish an interest bearing Trust Fund account in order to assist the Commission in earning additional revenues to support its programs

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Since 1989, the Commission on Disabilities has hosted an Annual Access Awards Luncheon in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to recognize outstanding individuals and companies that have made a difference in the lives of people with disabilities.

Subsequently, the Commission established a trust fund to house the proceeds derived from this luncheon event from donations, sponsorships, and luncheon sales, and to facilitate the allocation of funding for community programs sponsored by the Commission. As the Commission is a non-profit organization, we depend solely on the proceeds from the Luncheon and the generosity of Corporate Friends to sustain the trust fund. However, when the Disabilities' Trust Fund was initially established there was no requirement that the fund be interest bearing.

At this time, the Commission is requesting approval to establish an interest bearing trust fund. Establishing an interest bearing account would be fiscally responsible and will assist the Commission in earning additional revenues to support its programs. Additionally, the Commission on Disabilities' interest bearing account would be consistent with other existing Commission trust funds, such as the Commission for

Women's and the Judicial Procedures Commission's Trust Funds, both of which are interest bearing.

Implementation of Strategic Plan

Establishing an interest bearing account for the Commission's Trust Fund conforms with the County's Strategic Plan, Goal 3: Organizational Effectiveness, and Goal 4: Fiscal responsibility.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Funding for the interest bearing account would be solicited from various resources such as foundations, private corporations, philanthropic societies and charitable organizations. Funds would also be derived from the proceeds of the Commission's Annual Access Awards Luncheon event which is held each year to finance Commission programs such as the Bill Tainter Scholarship Program and the Community Forum Radio Program.

Although the establishment of an interest bearing account will have no fiscal impact on the County of Los Angeles, it will however, allow the Commission to be fiscally responsible, and accrue interest on any funds deposited into the account.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The interest bearing account would be administered by the Executive Committee of the Commission and Commission Services staff of the Executive Office. In accordance with the Auditor Controller's fiscal guidelines and the County Budget, the Executive Office would maintain detailed records of all deposits and fund disbursements. Any donations received in an amount over \$10,000 would be placed on your Honorable Board's Agenda for your consideration and acceptance; and any donations of lesser amounts will be reported to your Board quarterly.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

The Commission has a fiduciary responsibility to ensure that its trust funds are utilized in the best possible manner. Establishing an interest bearing trust account would be fiscally responsible in accordance with the County's Strategic Plan Goal #4; would allow the Commission to be more effective in its business transactions; and earn additional revenue to support its community programs.

CONCLUSION

It is requested that the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, return one adopted copy of this letter to the Commission on Disabilities. Also, please forward one adopted copy of the letter to the Auditor Controller and Commission Services, Executive Office.

Respectfully submitted,


JANET A. NEAL, Chairperson

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel, (Maya Lee)
Executive Officer